

## Fishery Conservation and Management

## § 648.122

(e) *Research quota*. See § 648.21(g).

[61 FR 43426, Aug. 23, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 27984, May 22, 1997; 65 FR 33497, May 24, 2000; 66 FR 12911, Mar. 1, 2001; 66 FR 42161, Aug. 10, 2001; 66 FR 45187, Aug. 28, 2001; 67 FR 6880, Feb. 14, 2002; 68 FR 62253, Nov. 3, 2003; 69 FR 62822, Oct. 28, 2004; 70 FR 310, Jan. 4, 2005]

### § 648.121 Closures.

(a) *Period closures*. The Regional Administrator will monitor the harvest of commercial quota for each quota period based on dealer reports, state data, and other available information and shall determine the date when the commercial quota for a period will be harvested. NMFS shall close the EEZ to fishing for scup by commercial vessels for the remainder of the indicated period by publishing notification in the FEDERAL REGISTER advising that, effective upon a specific date, the commercial quota for that period has been harvested, and notifying vessel and dealer permit holders that no commercial quota is available for landing scup for the remainder of the period.

(b) [Reserved]

[62 FR 27985, May 22, 1997, as amended at 65 FR 33497, May 24, 2000]

### § 648.122 Season and area restrictions.

(a) *Southern Gear Restricted Area*—(1) *Restrictions*. From January 1 through March 15, all trawl vessels in the Southern Gear Restricted Area that fish for or possess non-exempt species as specified in paragraph (a)(2) of this section must fish with nets that have a minimum mesh size of 5.0-inch (12.7-cm) diamond mesh, applied throughout the codend for at least 75 continuous meshes forward of the terminus of the net. For trawl nets with codends (including an extension) of fewer than 75 meshes, the entire trawl net must have a minimum mesh size of 5.0 inches (12.7 cm) throughout the net. The Southern Gear Restricted Area is an area bounded by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated (copies of a chart depicting the area are available from the Regional Administrator upon request):

#### SOUTHERN GEAR RESTRICTED AREA

Point	N. lat.	W. long.
SGA1 .....	39°20'	72°53'

#### SOUTHERN GEAR RESTRICTED AREA— Continued

Point	N. lat.	W. long.
SGA2 .....	39°20'	72°28'
SGA3 .....	38°00'	73°58'
SGA4 .....	37°00'	74°43'
SGA5 .....	36°30'	74°43'
SGA6 .....	36°30'	75°03'
SGA7 .....	37°00'	75°03'
SGA8 .....	38°00'	74°23'
SGA1 .....	39°20'	72°53'

(2) *Non-exempt species*. Unless otherwise specified in paragraph (d) of this section, the restrictions specified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section apply only to vessels in the Southern Gear Restricted Area that are fishing for or in possession of the following non-exempt species: *Loligo* squid, black sea bass and silver hake (whiting).

(b) *Northern Gear Restricted Area I*—(1) *Restrictions*. From November 1 through December 31, all trawl vessels in the Northern Gear Restricted Area I that fish for or possess non-exempt species as specified in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, 5.0-inch (12.7 cm) diamond mesh, applied throughout the codend for at least 75 continuous meshes forward of the terminus of the net. For trawl nets with codends (including an extension) of fewer than 75 meshes, the entire trawl net must have a minimum mesh size of 5.0 inches (12.7 cm) throughout the net. The Northern Gear Restricted Area I is an area bounded by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated (copies of a chart depicting the area are available from the Regional Administrator upon request):

#### NORTHERN GEAR RESTRICTED AREA I

Point	N. lat.	W. long.
NGA1 .....	41°00'	71°00'
NGA2 .....	41°00'	71°30'
NGA3 .....	40°00'	72°40'
NGA4 .....	40°00'	72°05'
NGA1 .....	41°00'	71°00'

(2) *Non-exempt species*. Unless otherwise specified in paragraph (d) of this section, the restrictions specified in paragraph (b)(1) of this section apply only to vessels in the Northern Gear Restricted Area I that are fishing for, or in possession of, the following non-exempt species: *Loligo* squid, black sea bass and silver hake (whiting).